

Docket No. 10004410-1

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-10, and 15-20 are pending in this application.

Claims 2, 5 and 11-14 have been canceled without prejudice in earlier amendments.

New claims 19 and 20 were added in an earlier amendment.

Need for Amendment After Allowance

The Notice of Allowance in this case (mailed Oct. 21, 2003) included an Examiner's Amendment in which method claims 6 and 9 were amended to be dependent from apparatus claim 19. This rendered claims 6 and 9 unclear, as well as claims 7 and 8 (dependent from claim 6).

Applicants submit the above-requested amendments to clarify the claims in response to the Examiner's Amendment.

Examination and Allowance of the claims, as reflected in the currently requested amendment, is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments facilitating allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative indicated below to further prosecution of this application.

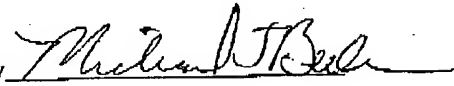
In view of the above, it is believed that claims in this amendment are in condition for allowance, and such a Notice is respectfully requested.

Docket No. 10004410-1

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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